

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure on page 26, as follows:

A payout for controlling the unwinding of a coil of wire from a wire drum which has an outer drum body and an inner core substantially coaxial with the drum body includes a first planar ring juxtaposed to the top of the wire coil and having a first inner edge closely adjacent to the core and a first outer edge spaced from the first inner edge and a second planar ring juxtaposed the top of the wire coil and having a second outer surface closely adjacent the drum body and a second inner surface spaced from the first outer surface of the first ring to define a continuous circular gap above the wire coil such that the wire passes upwardly through the gap as it is withdrawn from the wire coil.

A third ring overlies the first and second rings and is laterally displaceable relative thereto and eccentrically relative to the drum axis to further control payout of the wire. The second and third rings ~~along~~ alone can be used to control payout of the wire.